

Serial No. 09/873,674  
Attorney Docket No. F0537  
Firm Reference No. AMDSP0429US

Reply to Office Action Dated August 25, 2004  
Reply Dated October 31, 2004

### REMARKS

Following entry of the above amendment, claims 1-14, 21-25 and 27 will be pending.  
Claim 24 has been amended to include all the features of allowed claim 23.

#### I. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 1-14, 21-23 and 27 are allowed.

#### II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC §103(a)

Claim 24 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato, U.S. Patent No. 5,371,391 ("Sato"), in view of Chooi et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,486,080 B2<sup>1</sup>, ("Chooi"). Claim 24 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshikawa, U.S. Patent No. 6,632,714 ("Yoshikawa"), in view of Chooi<sup>2</sup>. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

Claim 24 has been amended to include all the features of allowed claim 23. Thus, claim 24 is patentable over the prior art of record. Since claim 25 depends from amended claim 24, claim 25 is also patentable.

#### III. CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the

<sup>1</sup> The rejection in the Office Action (OA) cites Chooi et al. as U.S. Patent No. 6,486,020. See page 2 of the OA, line 2 of paragraph 3. Chooi is actually U.S. Patent No. 6,486,080. Therefore the rejection is being treated as a combination of Sato and Chooi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,486,080).

<sup>2</sup> The rejection in the Office Action (OA) cites Chooi et al. as U.S. Patent No. 6,486,020. See page 3 of the OA, line 2 of paragraph 4. Chooi is actually U.S. Patent No. 6,486,080. Further, the Examiner appears to reject claim 25 under 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshikawa in view of Chooi. See page 3 of the OA, line 15 of paragraph 4. Therefore the rejection is being treated as a rejection of claims 24-25 based on the combination of Yoshikawa and Chooi. (U.S. Patent No. 6,486,080).

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application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present invention.

Any fee(s) resulting from this communication is hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 18-0988; Our Order No. F0537 (AMDSP0429US).

Respectfully submitted,  
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